Private Hire Vehicles – Specialist Needs Transport

Background

As part of the Mayor’s Air Quality Strategy from 1 January 2012 a 10 year rolling age limit will be introduced for private hire vehicles.

From 1 April 2012 all new or new to licensing private hire vehicles must, as a minimum, meet Euro 4 standards for emissions and be no older than 5 years.

A limited number of exemptions from the age-based limits have been consulted upon and approved. From 1 January 2012 all applications for an exemption must take place within the respective age limits (i.e. if the vehicle is older than the age limit it will not be possible to convert the vehicle and then make an application for exemption).

Specialist Needs Transport Exemption

Applications for an exemption can be made for licensed PHVs that are used to carry out a specialist needs transport service; applications in this category will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

PHVs in this category which are licensed:

- Before the implementation date of 1 January 2012, may be eligible for an exemption of an additional 5 years on the 10 year rolling limit
- On or after 1 January 2012 and before April 2012, may be eligible for an additional 5 years on the 5 year age limit and a subsequent 5 years on the 10 year age limit
- On or after April 2012, may be eligible for an additional 5 years on the 5 year age limit and a subsequent 5 years on the 10 year limit

The vehicle must meet the Euro 4 emissions standards at the point of licensing; documentary evidence that the vehicle meets the emissions standard may be required.

It would be expected that to qualify for an exemption from the age limit regulations vehicles would have undergone significant modifications in order to be able to carry out this type of service.

Applications for exemptions should clearly set out:

- A business case to TfL showing why these types of vehicle are required
- What service the vehicles are used for
• Details of all adaptations or modifications to the vehicles which enable them to fulfil the service and any additional vehicle certifications regarding the testing of the adaptations/modifications from Authorities such as VOSA or the VCA
• Why other vehicles could not be used to provide the same service
• Supporting information such as a copy of a contract with a Local Authority, Educational Authority or Health Trust to supply the type of services as described in the application

To Apply

Please complete form PHV/301 available from our website at tfl.gov.uk/tph or by calling 0845 602 7000.
Mayor's Air Quality Strategy

The Mayor's Air Quality Strategy was published in December 2010. This confirmed:

- From 1 January 2012, a 10 year rolling age limit for PHV vehicles being relicensed from 2012 onwards
- From 1 April 2012, all new PHVs must meet as a minimum the Euro 4 standard and be no older than 5 years

Exemptions

A number of exemptions are available for PHVs that meet specific criteria. If one or more of your vehicles fall within a category listed below, and you therefore believe an exemption should be granted, please tick the appropriate box and provide the relevant information on the reverse of this form:

- Alternative fuel conversions
- Historic/Classic/niche vehicles
- Disabled Driver
- Vehicles subject to the Low Emission Zone
- Vehicles used for specialist needs transport
- Wheelchair accessible vehicles

PLEASE NOTE:

- Any vehicle which has been previously licensed by Transport for London (TfL) but has not been licensed for more than 2 years will be considered “new” to licensing.
- Any application for exemption from 1 January 2012 must take place within the respective age limits (i.e. if the vehicle is older than the age limit it will not be possible to convert the vehicle and then make an application for exemption).

Guidance

- Guidelines for each of the above categories can be found at tfl.gov.uk/tph

Please return completed form and supporting evidence to:

London Taxi and Private Hire
4th Floor, Palestra
197 Blackfriars Rd
London
SE1 8NJ
Personal Details

A1 Surname/family name
A2 Forename(s)
A3 Address
A4 Telephone number
A5 Email
A6 Relationship to vehicle/s

Alternative Fuel Types

When an alternative fuel system adaptation has already been approved by TfL and installed before the implementation date of 1 January 2012 please provide details of the vehicle in Section E.

Where an alternative fuel system has yet to be approved, you are required to make a separate application. Please read the guidelines for this exemption which provides details on the process to follow. These are available at tfl.gov.uk/tph

B1 Fuel type for approved vehicle/s
   - LPG
   - CNG
   - Bio methane
   - other

B2 Please confirm vehicle/s UKLPG Registered
   - Yes
   - No

It is a requirement for the vehicle/s to be UKLPG registered for an exemption to be approved. Please visit www.drivlpg.co.uk to see whether vehicle/s are registered

B3 Please confirm original fuel type was diesel
   - Yes
   - No

Please note - Only vehicles converted from diesel will be eligible. Petrol conversions will not be eligible.

B4 Proceed to section H

Historic/Classic/Niche Vehicles

C1 Historic: Only vehicles registered with DVLA before 1 January 1973 are eligible for historic exemption.

All vehicles registered after this date will be rejected
For applications for exemption on grounds that your vehicle meets the ‘historic’ criteria, please complete Section C3 confirming the date the vehicle/s was first registered and provide a business reason as to why you need to continue to licence this particular vehicle as a private hire vehicle.

C2 Classic/Niche: For applications on the grounds that an exemption is required due to the vehicles status as a classic or niche status, please complete Section C3 confirming the following details as a minimum:

- Details of the vehicle and why it should be deemed a classic or niche vehicle
- Details of your business and the service offered.
- Why other vehicles could not be used to provide the same service
- Details of any modification that have been carried out to your vehicle (if applicable)

C3 Please state your business reasons below (attach additional evidence as appropriate e.g. photographs of vehicle, conversion certification confirming any modification of vehicle, etc)

(Please continue on separate sheet if required)

D4 Proceed to section H
D

Disabled Drivers

D1 Disabled drivers who have substantial adaptations made to their vehicle may be eligible for an exemption.

Where your adaptation has already been approved by TfL please provided details of the vehicle in section H.

Where your adaptation has yet to be approved, you are required to complete a separate application form (TPH/210). This is available from our website at tfl.gov.uk/tph or by ringing 0845 602 7000

E

Vehicles subject to Low Emission Zone

Where it has been identified that a vehicle is subject to the Low Emission Zone (LEZ) TfL will consider granting an exemption. Visit www.tfl.gov.uk/lez to see whether your vehicle is/will be affected.

E1 Please tick here if your vehicle is/will be subject to LEZ

E2 Please confirm why this particular type of vehicle is required to be licensed as a private hire vehicle. Confirming as a minimum the following details:

- State what service the vehicles are used for
- Include details of all adaptations or modifications to the vehicles which enable them to fulfil the service and any additional vehicle certifications regarding the testing of the adaptations/modifications from Authorities such as VOSA or the VCA
- State why other vehicles could not be used to provide the same service
- Provide supporting information such as a copy of a contract to supply the type of services as described in the application.

(Please continue on separate sheet if required)

Before submitting your application, please consider whether any of the other exemption categories are applicable for this vehicle

E3 Proceed to section H
Applications for an exemption can be made for licensed PHVs that are used to carry out a specialist needs transport service. Please complete **Section F1** confirming the following details as a minimum:

- Details of all adaptations or modifications to the vehicles which enable them to fulfil the service and any additional vehicle certifications regarding the testing of the adaptations/modifications from Authorities such as VOSA or the VCA
- Why other vehicles could not be used to provide the same service
- Supporting information such as a copy of a contract with a Local Authority, Educational Authority or Health Trust to supply the type of services as described in the application
- Details of your business and the service offered.

**F1** Please state your business reasons below (attach additional evidence as identified above and photographs of vehicle where appropriate.)

(Please continue on separate sheet if required)

**F2** Proceed to section H
Wheelchair accessible vehicles

Exemptions under this category will only be considered when a vehicle has been manufactured and type approved or permanently adapted/modified to enable a passenger using a wheelchair to enter, exit and travel safely and securely whilst always remaining in their wheelchair, for their entire journey.

Where your vehicle has been inspected and the wheelchair adaptation or modification approved please provide details of the vehicle in Section H and your application will be considered.

Where your adaptation/modification has yet to be approved, you will need to have your vehicle inspected. Appropriate vehicle certification will be required verifying that the vehicle is type approved as a WAV or, as adapted or modified, has been inspected and certified by an appropriate Authority (e.g. such as VOSA or the VCA).

G1 Please confirm whether your vehicle has been previously inspected with the adaptation/modification approved:

- [ ] Previously approved  Proceed to G3
- [ ] Yet to be approved   Proceed to G2

G2 Confirm date of modification  

DD/MM/YYYY

G2 Proceed to Section H
Vehicle details

Please identify the vehicles you are applying for below and indicate which exemption should be considered for each.

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<th>VRM</th>
<th>Make</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Exemption Type</th>
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Further vehicle details can be added in table on page 8 of application form.

Data Protection

Transport for London (TfL) its subsidiaries and service providers will use your personal information (including any references to your health, ethnic origin, nationality, or previous criminal convictions), for the purpose of assessing your application, administering the licensing regime, and equal opportunities monitoring. Your personal information will be properly safeguarded and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998. Further information, including a full copy of the Taxi & Private Hire Privacy notice, is available at tfl.gov.uk/privacy.

Declaration

I declare that all the information provided on this form is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the grant of an exemption from the vehicle age limit requirement can be refused if any statements are subsequently found to be false. I undertake to keep TfL informed of any changes to any details provided on this form. I understand that a failure to do so will constitute a breach of the conditions under which exemption may be granted and, as such, may lead to the withdrawal of exemption, if granted.

Signature: ______________________  Date:/DD/MM/YY/YY
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Vehicle details Cont’d